



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,191	10/28/2003	Gregory Lowe	19846-002	6573
27479	7590	09/12/2005	EXAMINER	
COCHRAN FREUND & YOUNG LLC			HAN, JASON	
2026 CARIBOU DR			ART UNIT	
SUITE 200			PAPER NUMBER	
FORT COLLINS, CO 80525			2875	

DATE MAILED: 09/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/696,191	Applicant(s) LOWE, GREGORY	
	Examiner Jason M. Han	Art Unit 2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 October 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: Page 11, Paragraph 35 – “arrow 86”. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
- a. Page 1, Paragraph 2, Line 13: semantical error – “objects” should read as “places”;
 - b. Page 4, Paragraph 23, Lines 7-8: “a larger number of support rods 12, stronger support rods 12” should be corrected to have separate reference numbers to clearly distinguish in the drawings;

- c. Page 7, Paragraph 28, Lines 1-4: "the plurality of extension rods 112" is not referenced anywhere "as shown in Figures 1-7";
- d. Page 8, Paragraph 30, Lines 1-4: "proximal ends 144" and "distal ends 46" are not referenced anywhere as "shown in Figures 1-6";
- e. Page 8, Paragraph 31, Lines 4-5: "distal end 44" should read as "distal end 46";
- f. Pages 9-10, Paragraph 33 contains numerous errors with respect to reference numbers – applicant's cooperation is requested to revise and clarify;
- g. Page 11, Paragraph 35, Line 13: "spring 92" should read as "spring 93";
Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

- 3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. Lines 4-5: applicant should refrain from using pronouns, whereby "their" should be considered to be deleted;
 - b. Lines 14-15: applicant should refrain from using pronouns, whereby "its" should be replaced by "a";
Appropriate correction is required.
- 4. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: In Line 4 of the claim, consider replacing "its" with either "said" or "the". Appropriate correction is required.
- 4. Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 4 recites the protruding end of the ferrule having a shaft while Claim 5 recites the protruding end of

Art Unit: 2875

the ferrule having an axial hole. Applicant's cooperation is requested in elucidating the seemingly contrasting statements.

5. Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant recites the limitation, "the fabric primary shroud", which lacks antecedent basis with respect to "fabric". Appropriate correction is required.

6. Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant claim dependency. Appropriate correction is required.

7. Claim 10 is objected to because of the following informalities: In Lines 4-5 of the claim, the applicant should refrain from using pronouns, whereby "their" should be considered to be deleted. Appropriate correction is required.

8. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant recites the limitation, "diffuser ring", which lacks antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Given appropriate amendment in response to the aforementioned, Independent Claims 1 and 10 recite a novel and easily transportable expansion attachment to a collapsible photographic umbrella for further diffusion and direction of photographic illumination. The prior art fails to teach or suggest the combination of structural elements disclosed and claimed herein, and all subsequent dependent claims are allowed.

Conclusion

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following references are further cited to show the state of the art pertinent to the current application, but are not considered exhaustive:

US Patent 3851164 to Intrator;

US Patent 3873821 to Larson;

US Patent 4524405 to Heard;

US Patent 4633374 to Waltz et al;

US Patent 5023757 to Shirilla;

US Patent 6491405 to Shirilla.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Han whose telephone number is (571) 272-2207. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2875

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JMH (9/1/2005)


Stephen Husar
Primary Examiner